

24 CONTINUED:

24

changed--and for the better. You must exert quite an influence. ..

GABRIELLE

Thank you.

SCILLA

It's...palpable. I envy that.

CUT TO:

25 EXT. COURTYARD - DAY

25

Xena walking in front of Dinonicus. She punches him backhanded, bloodies his nose.

XENA

That's for what you did to Gabrielle. Only partial payback by the way.

DINONICUS

I was expecting that. It was worth it to see you defensive and vulnerable.

XENA

Well, that's the worst possible image you could hold of me prior to following me into battle. And it won't be my problem--but yours. It'll be your neck and I'm certainly not going to stick mine out for you. Remember what the witch did to Glaucus.

She hits a nerve, he swallows hard.

XENA

Now that's an image to hold on to, isn't it?

CUT TO:

26 INT. PALACE - NIGHT

26

Gabrielle and Xena in their room.

GABRIELLE

There's something you're not telling me.

XENA

Do you always have to know everything?

GABRIELLE

That's what Scilla asked me.

(CONTINUED)